

**In the Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A flotation device comprising:

- a right flotation pad;
- a center flotation pad being connected to said right flotation pad by a first strap;
- 5        -a right leg strap having a first end connected to said right flotation pad and a second end connected to said center ~~flotation~~ flotation pad;
- a left leg strap having a first end connected to said left ~~flotation~~ flotation pad and a second end connected to said center flotation pad.

10        Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The flotation device of claim 1 further comprising:

- a lower strap attached at a first end to the right flotation pad and attached at a second end to said left ~~flotation~~ flotation pad;
- and wherein said lower strap is inserted through a first loop in said second end of said left leg strap and a second loop in said second end of said right leg strap.

15        Claim 3 (Original): The flotation device of claim 2 wherein said first strap, second strap, right leg strap and left leg strap are coated with a polyurethane compound.

      Claim 4 (Original): The flotation device of claim 3 further comprising:

- 20        -first means, operatively attached to said right leg strap, for adjusting the length of the right leg strap.

      Claim 5 (Original): The flotation device of claim 4 further comprising:

- 25        -second means, operatively attached to said left leg strap, for adjusting the length of the left leg strap.

Claim 6 (Original): The flotation device of claim 1 wherein said center flotation pad has a D-ring on a first side and wherein the flotation device further comprises a safety line attached to said D-ring and wherein said safety line has a coated dielectric layer encapsulating a webbing core.

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Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The ~~floatation~~ flotation device of claim 6 wherein said coated dielectric layer comprises a polyurethane coating.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A safety vest device comprising:

10                   -a right foam panel;  
                      -a center foam panel being connected to said right foam panel by a first shoulder strap;

                      -a left foam panel being connected to said center foam panel by a second shoulder strap;

15                   -a right leg strap having a first end and a second end, and wherein said first end is connected to said right foam panel and said second end is connected to said center foam panel;

                      -a left leg strap having a first end and a second end, and wherein said first end is connected to said left foam panel and said second end is connected to said center foam panel;

20                   -means for attaching said right foam panel to said left foam panel, and wherein said attaching means is positioned on a front side of said right foam panel and on a front side of said left foam panel[.] ;

-a ring member attached to a back side of said center foam panel so that said ring member is positioned radially opposite said attaching means, and wherein said ring  
25 member is configured to attach to a safety line;

-a lower strap attached at a first end to the right foam panel and attached at a second end to said left foam panel;

-and wherein said lower strap is inserted through a first loop in said second end of said left leg strap and through a second loop in said second end of said right leg strap;

5 first means, operatively attached to said right leg strap, for adjusting the length of the right leg strap;

-second means, operatively attached to said left leg strap, for adjusting the length of the left leg strap; and wherein said right and left leg strap has a coated layer encapsulating a webbing core.

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Claim 9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (Canceled)

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Claim 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (Canceled)

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Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The safety vest device of claim 43 8 wherein said coated layer comprises a polyurethane coating.

Claim 15 (Original): A safety vest apparatus comprising:

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-a left foam pad with a first strap attached thereto;

-a center foam pad having a D-ring on a first side, and wherein said first strap attaches said left foam pad with said center foam pad;

-a right foam pad with a second strap operatively attached thereto, and wherein said right foam pad is attached to said center foam pad with said second strap;

5           -a left harness strap attached at a first end to said left foam pad and attached at a second end to said center foam pad, and wherein said left harness strap forms a left loop;

          -a right harness strap attached at a first end to said right foam pad and attached at a second end to said center foam pad, and wherein said right harness strap forms a right loop.

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Claim 16 (Original): The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising:

-a safety line attached to said D-ring, and wherein said safety line comprises:

-a shock absorber means for absorbing an initial force to said safety line;

15           -a webbing core encapsulated with a dielectric material to absorb an electrical current applied to said safety line and wherein said dielectric material is a polyurethane compound.

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Claim 17 (Canceled)

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Claim 18 (Canceled)